



DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Washington, D.C. 20520

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March 8, 1982

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TO: H - Jim Montgomery  
ARA - Tony Gillespie  
PA - Rush Taylor  
CIA -

FROM: P - David C. Gompert

Attached is the detailed plan I promised.

*File  
El Salvador  
briefing*

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State Dept. review completed

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March 8, 1982

Mr. Secretary:

Here is the detailed plan  
for this week's briefings on  
Central America. I will keep  
you posted as we proceed.

LSE

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Plan for Briefings on Central America

Tuesday, March 9

2:00 p.m. briefing for press (State, White House, DOD, foreign) in Loy Henderson Room by Hughes and Inman. Dean Fischer will introduce. PA to spread word in the morning and announce at noon, including names of briefers. Focussed on Nicaragua: arms build-up and Misquitos. CIA to provide State with text. On-the-record with no restriction (i.e., filming permitted). No hand-outs.

Wednesday, March 10

2:00 p.m. briefing for elder statesmen (list attached) in Secretary's Conference Room. Eagleburger to issue invitations. Secretary to introduce the subject (ARA doing talking points). Casey or Inman plus expert briefers. Briefing to cover full array of intelligence on Nicaragua and El Salvador. PA to inform press at noon that the meeting is to take place; press to cover after conclusion.

Thursday, March 11

4:00 Congressional briefing by Casey and/or Inman, to cover full array of intelligence. Would include chairmen and ranking minority members of: SFRC, HFAC, Senate and House Armed Services Committees, Senate and House Appropriations Committees, Senate and House Foreign Ops and Defense Appropriations Sub-Committee, and SFRC and HFAC Latin America Sub-Committees. Leadership would also include: Baker, Thurmond, Stevens, McClure, Byrd, Cranston, Inouye, O'Neill, Wright, Foley, Michel, Lott, Kemp. No staff. H to set this up, to take place in the Capitol. Briefing should include information about the 3 defectors/prisoners. CIA to decide whether the 3 can be made available to the Committees the following week.

Friday, March 12

2:00 on-the-record press briefing on Nicaraguan involvement in El Salvador. Defectors/prisoners to be presented and questioned. CIA and ARA are inclined to exclude 1 prisoner who remains a committed revolutionary. CIA provides escort officers only, otherwise staying in the background. CIA will advise on handling -- e.g., interpreters, separation of the individuals, format of questioning. Filming encouraged.

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Dean Fischer to present and control. Tom Enders to handle contingencies, policy questions. ARA should check with L about the legal status of the individuals, if necessary consult with Justice. Maintain close-hold until Friday. We should be prepared to provide the fullest possible briefing on our intelligence regarding Nicaraguan involvement in El Salvador even without presenting individuals, if we decide there are too many pitfalls in having the people there.

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